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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA CANAL COMPANY.

OFFICE OF THE JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA CANAL Co., }
RICHMOND, September 27, 1865.

To His Excellency ARTHUR I. BOREMAN,
Governor of West Virginia :

SIR:—I have the honor to invite your Excellency to a consideration of the "Act to incorporate the Virginia Canal Company, and to transfer the rights and franchises of the James River and Kanawha Company thereto," passed by the General Assembly of Virginia March 29, 1861, a copy of which I herewith transmit.

The Virginia Canal Company having failed to comply with section 4 of chapter 10, entitled "Duration of charter," further action, I presume, is necessary on the part of the Legislature of Virginia, and action also on the part of the Legislature of West Virginia, in order to revive the charter.

Mr. Ernest Bellot des Minieres corresponded with me regularly during the late war, and since the close of the war has claimed strongly his right to have the provisional agreement of the 30th of August, 1860, executed on the part of the Commonwealth, alleging the readiness and wish of himself and his associates to execute it on their part.

In the month of July last, I was officially informed by the French Consul in this city, that the French government continued to feel the interest which it had originally instructed him to manifest in this scheme, and that the French Minister in Washington had also received renewed instructions to give to the scheme as much moral support as might be compatible with the reserve imposed by his official position.

Intending to bring the subject to the notice of my stockholders at their annual meeting on the 23d of October next, I shall be much gratified if you will favor me with your views in regard to it—indicating whether or not you will be willing to recommend it to the favorable consideration of the General Assembly of West Virginia, and to admit such modifications of the charter heretofore granted as may appear reasonable and proper.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's Ob't Serv't,

THOMAS H. ELLIS,
President.